

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1944.Public Health Officers of the Authority:-

Medical Officer of Health:- W. AMES, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., Lond.  
Part Time.

District Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator Under Poor Law:-  
E.S. EDWARDS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Lond.

Sanitary Inspector:- L. J. ROLL, A.R.San.I., Cert.S.I.B.,

Gentlemen,

I herewith beg to submit my report for the year 1944.

SECTION A.

Area.	-	16,549.
Population.	-	2,795.
Number of inhabited houses.	-	798.
Rateable Value.	-	219.
Sum represented by Penny Rate.	-	259.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS.

- The chief industry is agriculture.

		M.	F.	
<u>Live Births.</u>	Total	70.	38.	40.
Legitimate.	"	72.	33.	59.
Illegitimate.	"	6.	5.	1.

Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population resident is - 27.0  
Corresponding rate for England & Wales. - 17.6

Still Births. " 3. 5. 1.

Deaths. " 47. 25. 22. ) Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population is - 16.0  
Corresponding rate for England & Wales. - 11.0

Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis. Nil.

Deaths from other Puerperal causes. Nil.

Death rate of infants under one year of age:-

Corresponding figure for England & Wales.

All Infants per 1,000 live births..... 78.5

46.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate births. 72.3

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births. Nil.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)..... Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough..... Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs. of age) Nil.

Birth Rate increase of 11.7 compared with 1943.

Death Rate increase of 5.7 compared with 1943.



SECTION B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(A). Laboratory Facilities.

By contract with Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Peterborough Memorial Hospital, at the cost of £7. 10. 0. per annum.

(B). Ambulance Facilities.

(1). Infectious Cases. - Ambulance transport provided by the Helton Road, Ticehurst Hospital.

(2). Non-Infectious Cases. - St. John Ambulance Brigade, Stamford.

(C). Nursing in the Home.

By local District Nursing Association. No provision is made by the Council.

(D). Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Anti-natal. - Examinations are carried out by the General Practitioners under the County Council Scheme; which also provides for a Consultant's opinion and admission to the Obstetrical Ward of Stamford Rutland and General Infirmary for abnormal cases. Admissions to hospital are arranged by the County H.O.B.

SECTION C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA. (Sanitary Inspector's Report).

1. (1). WATER. Quality. 11 bacteriological examinations were made during the year and of these only 4 were satisfactory. 24 further bacteriological examinations were carried out. With the exception of Helton the quality of water in the district is not satisfactory.

Quantity. The drought caused a serious water shortage especially in the northern side of the district. Water carting was, however, not necessary. The position improved towards the end of the year.

One supply (Little Casterton) is chlorinated at source.

Approximately 25% of houses are supplied direct from mains.

Approximately 9% of houses rely on stand pipes.

The remainder obtain water from surface wells.

It has long been appreciated that a conducted supply for the whole district is a necessity both on account of quantity and quality of water available. A plan to provide this conducted supply has been prepared by Consulting Engineers at the request of the Council.

(2). DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. - That of surface water only.

2. (1). CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. - Pail closets are in use in the District.

(2). PUBLIC CLEANSING. - By Council Scavenger of night soil and house refuse in all main villages. In smaller villages by disposal on to gardens by residents.





(a). The method of collecting dry house refuse.

By Council Scavengers in all main villages  
once weekly.

(b). The method of collecting refuse from earth closets  
and privies.

By Council Scavengers in all main villages,  
once weekly.

(c). The method of disposing of dry house refuse.

Into pits in the vicinity of Ketton, Great  
Casterton, Bemisthorpe and Essendine.

(d). The method of disposing of refuse from earth closets  
and privies.

Usually emptied on farm lands.

(e). The method of cleansing cesspools.

Pumps or buckets.

(f). Arrangements for disposal of cesspool contents.

Land disposals.

### 3. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

No. of inspections made for all purposes..... 1852.

Notices served:-

	<u>Served.</u>	<u>Complied with.</u>
Informal.	20.	20.
Statutory.	5.	5.

#### INSPECTIONS.

Housing.....	102.
Cowsheds and Dairies.....	75.
Meat and Foods.....	82.
Factories.....	64.
Water supplies.....	190.
Salvage.....	169.
Refuse disposal.....	114.
Building.....	98.
Miscellaneous.....	650.
	<u>TOTAL.</u>
	1852.

#### NUISANCES ABATED.

2 nuisances from drainage at premises other than  
dwelling-houses and a nuisance from the keeping of pigs were  
abated in addition to nuisances arising from defective drainage  
etc. at houses.

#### SALVAGE.

The salvage scheme has been continued on the same lines  
as last year and 169 visits were made to the various depots and  
dumps. Owing to lack of demand the only materials now handled  
are paper, rags and bones. The amount of materials handled and  
the receipts again show a decline but not a greater extent than  
is general throughout the country. In all the sum of £75. 4. 8.  
was received from the sale of 8 tons. 12 cwt. 3 qrs. paper,  
2 tons scrap iron, 14 cwt. bones and 7 cwt. 3 qrs. rags.

The first part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the  
 various methods which have been proposed for the determination of  
 the rate of reaction between a solid and a liquid. It is shown that  
 the most reliable method is that of measuring the change in weight  
 of the solid as the reaction proceeds. This method is applicable to  
 all cases in which the solid is insoluble in the liquid. It is  
 also applicable to cases in which the solid is soluble in the liquid,  
 provided that the solid is in the form of a powder or of small  
 pieces. The method of measuring the change in weight of the solid  
 is described in detail, and it is shown that it is possible to  
 determine the rate of reaction with an accuracy of 1%.

TABLE I

Time, min.	Weight of solid, g.	Weight of liquid, g.
0	1.000	10.000
10	0.950	10.050
20	0.900	10.100
30	0.850	10.150
40	0.800	10.200
50	0.750	10.250
60	0.700	10.300
70	0.650	10.350
80	0.600	10.400
90	0.550	10.450
100	0.500	10.500

The second part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the  
 various factors which influence the rate of reaction between a solid  
 and a liquid. It is shown that the rate of reaction is influenced  
 by the surface area of the solid, by the concentration of the liquid,  
 by the temperature, and by the nature of the solid and the liquid.  
 The effect of each of these factors is discussed in detail, and it is  
 shown that the rate of reaction can be increased by increasing the  
 surface area of the solid, by increasing the concentration of the  
 liquid, by increasing the temperature, and by choosing a solid and  
 a liquid which react rapidly.

## MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

No further sites were licensed under Sec. 269 P.R.A. 1936, but existing licences remained in force.

## SECTION D. HOUSING.

1.	(1).	(a).	Number of visits.....	102.
		(b).	Number of Dwelling Houses inspected for defects..	56.
	(2).	(a).	Number of houses inspected & recorded under 1935 Regulations.....	5.
		(b).	Number of inspections for that purpose.....	15.
	(3).		Number of dwellings found to be in a state so dangerous to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....	nil.
	(4).		Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	54.

## 2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS.

		Number of houses repaired as a result of informal action.....	20.
		Number repaired as a result of action under Sec.9, H.A. 1936.....	3.
		Number of houses for which demolition orders made.....	nil.
		Number of new cases of overcrowding discovered.....	nil.
		Number of cases of overcrowding abated.....	2.

## 3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a).		Proceedings under Sec. 9, 10 and 10 of Housing Act 1936.	
	(1).	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.....	4.
	(2).	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:-	
		(a). By owners.....	5.
		(b). By local Authority in default of Owners.....	nil.

In addition 10 houses which sustained minor war damage were repaired by the Council.

## 4. NEW BUILDINGS.

4 new Council Houses were completed at Great Casterton during the year for agricultural workers. No houses were erected by private enterprise.

11 plans were deposited and 10 approved. These mainly related to additions and alterations to business and farm premises. 90 inspections were made in all.

## SECTION E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### (a). Milk Supply. - Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Parveyors:-

	Visits to registered premises.....	70.
	Notices served for infringements of Milk & Dairies Order.....	2.
	One was complied with and in the second case the dairyman gave up business.	

On the registers at the end of the year:-





CODE

*Original on 2169/10. 000.*

Rural District Council of Retton

Town Hall,  
Stanford, Lincs.

14th August, 1945.

The Assistant Secretary,  
Ministry of Health,  
Whitehall,  
London, W.C.1.

Dear Sir,

Retton Rural District

With reference to the Annual Report of the above District there is an error under Section 3. Diphtheria Immunisation, on page 5, where the figure for the immunised children under 5 years of age, should read 70.6 and not 20.6.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) W. Inley Jones

<https://archive.org/details/b29531354>

Cowkeepers & Wholesale & Retail Milk Parvejors	-	7
" " " Milk Parvejors.	-	1
" " Retail Milk Parvejors.	-	18
" " Parvejors of Butter only.	-	8
		<hr/> 24

There were no additions but 3 removals from the register during the year.

Number of Producers of Accredited Milk in the District... 5.

2 bulk samples of milk from dairy herds were taken and tested by biological methods for presence of Tubercle Bacilli - all were reported negative.

#### (C). MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

One larkhouse ceased to be used as such but in other respects the number of premises at which food is prepared for sale remained unchanged. The 3 licensed slaughter-houses continue to be used only for an occasional emergency slaughter and the carcasses of two pigs were inspected and found satisfactory. It has not been necessary to condemn any foodstuffs as unfit for human consumption during the year.

### SECTION F. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

#### Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Diseases.

Accommodation is provided in Melton Rowbray Isolation Hospital for treatment of Diphtheria, Typhoid & Para-Typhoid Fever, Scarlet Fever, Cerebro Spinal Meningitis, Erysipelas and Encephalitis, at an annual contract maintenance charge of £85. and £1. 1. 0. per week per patient.

The cost of Serum and ambulance transport being additional. Accommodation has been adequate.

#### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION.

Free immunization is provided by the County Council for all children of school and pre-school age.

Percentage immunizations of all children up to 15 years of age, performed by the County Medical Officer of Health at:-

	<u>Dec./40.</u>	<u>Sept/41.</u>	<u>June/42.</u>	<u>June/43.</u>	<u>Dec/43.</u>	<u>June/44.</u>	<u>Dec/44.</u>
Under 5 years.	16%	30.5%	54.5%	71%	71%	93.1%	20.6%
5 - 15 years.	18%	64.5%	75%	86%	86.5%	84.5%	83.3%

Provision has also been made by this Council for the free immunization of children from 1 - 5 years of age by the General Practitioners of the District at a fee of 2/6 per inoculation, with a maximum of 5/- per child.

No report of any such immunizations has been received. No fees have been claimed by General Practitioners.

One case of Diphtheria occurred during the year - an unimmunized adult aged 29 years.





### SCABIES.

Residents of the District suffering from Scabies are treated at the Stamford Clinic by contract with the Hesteven County Council, at a charge of £1. 1. 0. per patient and 5/- per preventative treatment. This contract includes ambulance transport when essential.

Number of patients treated at Stamford during the year:-

Men.....	2 plus 1 preventative treatment.
Women.....	7 plus 1 " "
Children.....	16 plus 4 " "

This is an increase of 10 cases compared with 1943.

### PEDICULOSIS.

No cases of pediculosis were reported. No facilities for disinestation of persons or bedding exist in the District; reliance would have to be made on the Stamford Cleansing Centre.

### NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

No epidemics have occurred.

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

(Other than Tuberculosis) during 1944.

	<u>Notified.</u>	<u>Admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Small-pox.	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	10	6	-
Diphtheria.	1	1	-
Enteric Fever.	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever.	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-
Pneumonia.	5	-	-
Erysipelas.	1	-	-
Measles.	nil	-	-
Whooping Cough.	3	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.	-	-	-

#### (a). CANCER.

No undue prevalence in the District.

No treatment or propaganda centre exists.

#### (b). PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

Nil.

#### (c). TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and mortality during 1944:-



<u>Age Periods.</u>	<u>New Cases.</u>				<u>Deaths.</u>			
	<u>resp.</u>		<u>non-resp.</u>		<u>resp.</u>		<u>non-resp.</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
45 - 55.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL.</u>	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant.

W. ARLEY HAWES.

July 1945.

Medical Officer of Health.

